

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 08360 071342Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 CA-01 L-03 H-01 HA-05 PPT-01
SSO-00 /028 W
-----044797 071345Z /40
O 071315Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9336

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, SHUM, NI
SUBJECT: RAY BAKER'S RESIDENCE PERMIT

REF: A. LAGOS 8253; B. STATE 163203

1. AMBASSADOR EASUM DID NOT DISCUSS THE BAKER CASE WITH GARBA ON JULY 6 BECAUSE THE COMMISSIONER WAS UNABLE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT DURING THIS HECTIC DAY PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE TO THE OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING IN KHARTOUM. HOWEVER, GARBA'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT, BRONSON DEDE, GAVE GARBA A BRIEF MEMO THAT AFTERNOON WHICH SUMMARIZED THE PRESENT STATUS OF BAKER'S CASE AND SAID THAT THE AMBASSADOR WOULD NEED TO RAISE THE MATTER WITH YAR'ADUA IF FAVORABLE ACTION IS NOT NOW FORTHCOMING FROM MEA.

2. WE THINK IT LIKELY THAT FABUNMI WILL GIVE US HIS REPORT ON THE CASE BY EARLY NEXT WEEK, IF NOT SOONER. NEVERTHELESS, WE BELIEVE THAT THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD RECOMMEND TO BAKER THAT HE INITIATE TRAVEL PREPARATIONS IMMEDIATELY. SINCE HE WISHES TO ATTEND A BOARD MEETING WHICH WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR NIGERIAN DIVERSIFIED INVESTMENTS LTD. TO SUBMIT PAPERS TO THE FMG BY THE LEGAL DEADLINE OF JULY 31, 1978 (REFTEL B), WE BELIEVE
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HE SHOULD SUBMIT HIS VISA APPLICATION WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY. WE WILL INFORM FABUNMI THAT WE HAVE RECOMMENDED THAT HE DO SO.

3. ON BAKER'S LAST TRIP TO NIGERIA, WHEN NO DECISION HAD BEEN MADE ON HIS CASE, HE WAS PERMITTED TO ENTER THE COUNTRY BUT HIS PASSPORT WAS THEN TAKEN FROM HIM.

EVEN IF WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN THE FMG'S
DECISION ON HIS CASE BEFORE HIS ARRIVAL, IT APPEARS
HIGHLY PROBABLE THAT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO ATTEND THE
CRUCIAL BOARD MEETING HERE AND THAT HIS PRESENCY WOULD
HELP TO RESOLVE THE RESIDENCE PERMIT ISSUE.
WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT
WE WILL HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF THE FMG'S DECISION BEFORE
HIS ARRIVAL.
EASUM

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NNN

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